

"CAP" ANSON DECLINES TO BE A "SECOND RATER,"

If Chicago Drops Him He Means to Quit Baseball for Good.

NOT A MINOR LEAGUER.

At the Top Too Long to Pose as an Advertising Freak for a Small Nine.

If Adrian C. Anson is retired from the captaincy of the Chicago Baseball Club by the present Board of Directors, he will retire from baseball for good and all, unless he changes his mind.

He made a positive statement in this city before departing for the West that he would not accept the management of a team in the Western League, either at Grand Rapids, or Chicago, and that he wanted his old job or none.

Anson deplored from the captaincy will be Anson, the gentleman, retired—not a first class star in a fifth rate vaudeville. The prestige of an honorable career in the greatest baseball league in the world is not to be lent to the advertisement of a minor league team with nothing but a bread and butter career before it.

To step from the pate de fois gras, the terrapin and the woe, cold bottles of the National League to ham and—slabs of mulligatawny custard pie and boiled spring water is more than the proud spirit of Adrian Constantine Anson can endure, and he doesn't propose to stand for it.

What his future will be, providing the Chicago Club deposes him, Anson scarcely knows himself. There are billiard matches to be played, clay pigeons to be shot at, and wagers to be wagered on all the salient acts of the Chicago captain has had a more or less checkered career—in baseball wagers, decidedly less.

Anson is not vainglorious nor egotistical. He is proud of the work that he has done to be proud of it. No man ever has been a member of a national team as long as he has been, and none has ever been connected with the diamond who has served with more honor or faithfulness.

"When I am done," said he, "I am going to be a small man, and I am not going to be an advertising annex to anything less prominent than the National League."

Whether he would accept an appointive position, as chief of umpires, or something of that sort, under the National League, is a question. Considering the state he has taken it is doubtful if he would do so.

It is generally believed that Tom Burns, formerly third baseman of the Chicago nine under Anson, and recently of the Boston team in Springfield, Mass., team in the Eastern League, will supersede the "Grand Old Man" on the Chicago nine.

This story is given credence in Springfield and Chicago, and confirmation of considerable weight was added to it by the fact that President Hart, of the Chicago Club, together with the National League, at the meeting at Philadelphia for Burns to join him in that city. A consultation was held at that time regarding the possibility of appointing Burns to the position of manager.

Burns' ideas were taken into consideration. While A. G. Spalding asserts that Anson has not been relieved of the captaincy, and that he is still in command, the statement undoubtedly is, everything points to a change in the management this year.

Anson, while discussing the matter, was bubbling over with the confidence usually inspires him, and, if he did not talk any baseball during his visit to England, evidently thought a lot about it.

SHOT HER OWN MOTHER.

Woman Supposed to Be Insane Commits a Horrible Crime While in a Rage.

Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 18.—Mrs. Flora Xager, whose insane actions have for some time alarmed the residents of Susquehanna, Pa., where she lives, shot and killed her mother, Mrs. G. O. Sweet, about 11 o'clock last night. The conduct of the woman has of late been so strange that other families living in the same house were obliged to vacate the premises.

When the woman appeared on the streets it was in her night clothing. At one time the family was well to do and respectable. Notwithstanding the fact that Mrs. Sweet and daughter were in straitened circumstances the neighbors who called to render assistance were denied admittance and even refused to enter the premises.

When arrested Mrs. Xager still had the smoking revolver which she committed the murder with. She acknowledged the guilt. Her only explanation of her deed is that her mother made her mad.

TOO YOUNG FOR CHINA.

Senator Teller Gives His Reason for Opposing Bryan's Confirmation as Minister.

Washington, Dec. 18.—In reply to a question, Senator Teller said to-day that he would oppose the confirmation of the nomination of Mr. Charles Page Bryan to be Minister to China.

"My opposition to his confirmation," he said, "is based solely upon the ground that he has had no experience or training that would justify this Government in selecting him for the most important mission we have at the present time. It cannot be denied that certain European countries intend, if they can possibly find an excuse for so doing, to dismember China."

The mission to England, France or Russia is at this time of less importance than the Chinese mission. My opposition to Mr. Bryan grows out of the recognized necessity of having a strong man at this important post. I do not believe that the friends of Mr. Bryan will contend that he meets these requirements."

SLEPT IN STREET CARS.

Trolley Passengers Weather-Bound Between Stations on a Chicago Line.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Thirty elderly suburbanites spent the night at Fifty-second and Lake streets in a street car last night the alternative being an eight mile walk through a bitter night and a storm of snow. The trolley broke about 8 o'clock, leaving six cars on the La Grange line and two on the Oak Park Division silent and standing on the tracks.

Conductors told stories of Dakota blizzards to the motorists and the passengers growled and then gave up. Some of the non-informed curled down on the seats and were "dead" to the situation and the storm, dreaming of warm beds and happy families.

Others walked up and down the narrow aisles and watched the elements gathering for a snowstorm. It was 3 o'clock in the morning before the snowmen found the break and the prisoners were released.

BIG WHISKEY MEN ASSIGN.

Three Concerns Have Assets Sufficient to Offset Their Liabilities.

Oswego, Ky., Dec. 18.—B. Menarch, for himself, the Glenmore Distilling Company, and the Eagle Distilling Company, assigned today to the Columbia Finance and Trust Company of Louisville. The assets and liabilities are estimated to be each about seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The depression in the whiskey trade and inability to continue loans are given as the cause.



Adrian Constantine Anson.

NO REDUCTION IN STATE TAXES.

Lower Rate Promised, but the Assessment Has Gone Up.

NO ECONOMY THIS YEAR.

Legislators Will Talk About It, but There Will Be Plenty of Money to Spend.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 18.—The Republican State leaders are bragging that the State tax rate will be materially reduced by the next Legislature from the high rate of 2.69 mills on each dollar of valuation, which was increased by the Legislature of 1897.

Optimistic ones predict that the rate will be brought below 2.50, but the calculations and estimates of the State Comptroller and the State Board of Tax Commissioners do not furnish a reasonable basis for predicting a tax rate of less than 2.55.

This promise of a lower tax rate does not mean that the Republican majority in the Legislature will be economical in making appropriations. The fact is otherwise. For it will have the benefit of much higher valuations of real and personal property upon which the State taxes will be levied.

So that while the same excessive appropriations may be made, the augmentation of valuations will produce an apparently lower tax rate, but not lower taxes.

Up to Assessments.

The total valuation of real and personal property in the State last year, as returned by local assessors, was \$4,506,085,004. According to careful estimates made in the State departments, the total valuation of 1896 will be increased by an amount from \$300,000,000 to \$500,000,000. This percentage of increase is about one-eleventh, and the tax rate necessary to raise \$12,000,000—the amount of the tax levy this year—would be about 2.55, with which the State Administration can go before the people next year shouting about their "economy," unless their scheme of playing on the increased property valuations is understood.

The increased valuations were brought about by the State Board of Tax Commissioners acting at the behest of the Republican leaders, who favored the increase, and taxable values would reduce the tax rate and require no diminution of appropriations.

An Unequal Assessment.

The Tax Commissioners warned local assessors last Spring that their oaths compelled them to assess all property, real and personal, at its full value. The Board threatened criminal proceedings if local assessors did not obey the law. Only sporadic attempts were made by local boards of assessors to obey the law. Grand juries in Westchester, Oneida and Clinton counties returned presentments against assessors, and in these and other counties the assessment rolls showed increases in value at all, and county boards of supervisors punished towns assessed at full value by adding to their assessments when the State tax rate for the coming year was assessed at full value at a double disadvantage.

These inequalities in assessments have raised a storm all over the State. The injustice to those assessed at full value is apparent. If the tax rate is lowered those assessed at full value will receive a benefit while in those counties where the assessments were only 50 per cent of full value the taxpayers will gain.

Legislators from various parts of the State, moved by complaints of their constituents, resolved the matter. It is notorious that the methods of assessing personal property this year have resulted in taxing fully the live stock and implements of farmers, while the assessment of personal property in the large cities has been just as lax as ever.

Cities Also Complain.

On the other hand, the taxpayers of large cities, notably New York, have complained for years that enormous taxes have been levied on them, from the fact that the rural districts are assessed at a lower rate. It is notorious that the State Board of Equalization has yearly discriminated against New York County in favor of the up-State districts.

At the rate the present method of assessing personal property will be among the most serious of the problems to confront the Legislature, notwithstanding the fact that Senator Platt and Governor Black have given orders that no dangerous legislation will be permitted to go through.

SUFFOCATED BY GASOLINE.

Stove Exploded and a Woman and Child Were Cut Off in a Pantry.

Holyoke, Mass., Dec. 18.—Two lives were lost by the explosion of a gasoline stove in this city this morning. Miss Amelia Kogel, thirty-two, attempted to start the stove, when there was an explosion. She picked up a two-year-old child named Alfred Kessel was in the house, and tried to escape, but both were suffocated before help reached them.

GALLANT TARS TO DEFEND NEW YORK

Naval Militia Will Ask the Legislature to Build a Small Battle Ship.

DESIGNS ALREADY IN HAND.

Plans for a Vessel 200 Feet Long with Big Guns and Belts of Armor.

Another effort is to be made by the Naval Militia of New York to induce the State government to give them a war ship of their own.

Commander Jacob W. Miller, of the First Battalion, said last evening that a meeting of leading members of the organization would be held at his office next week, when plans will be exhibited. Commander Miller is president of the Stoughton Line of steamboats. He labored long to make the naval militia a creditable feature of the National Guard of the great State of New York.

Governor Black in his inaugural address recommended that a ship be provided for the naval militia. The militia are weary of the old system of going to sea in rotten school ships, dangerous even in the harbor on a stormy day. Commander Miller holds that in case of war a proper gunboat with the necessary machinery would be serviceable in laying mines and torpedoes to block the way of the enemy's ships. In peace the militia could use the boat in cruising about the bays and harbors to make soundings, charts, to ascertain the bearings on the various lights, and secure other useful naval information absolutely necessary in case of war.

At present, says Commander Miller, our sailors have nothing to sail. Notwithstanding the prevailing ideas that parliament is necessary to maintain the State government, Mr. Miller expects that an appropriation to provide the brigade with a suitable and properly appointed vessel will in the end prove an economical investment.

Good Work of Reserves.

The officers of the New York Naval Militia, refer with pride to ex-Secretary Herbert's report praising the New York Naval Reserves. The Secretary said that, notwithstanding the act creating the naval militia was an experiment, with very little support in the public mind, the result of its efficiency and good work has been a gratifying surprise.

From the very first, he says, the battalions had continued to grow in favor and the young fellows enrolled have won the good opinions of the Navy Department. Almost without exception the Secretary says, the battalions are composed of the very best material—energetic, intelligent, patriotic young men, anxious to fit themselves for the public service, and zealous to embrace every opportunity afforded them for improvement.

A dispatch from Washington to the Journal yesterday states that plans for a coast defense vessel for the New York Naval Militia have been filed with the Navy Department.

Plans Now on File.

The plans are by A. B. Cassidy, naval architect, of Washington.

In design, the vessel closely resembles the Monterey, but it also has certain features of the coast defense battleships Indiana and Massachusetts. It is to be 200 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 12 feet deep, with 500 tons displacement. It will have two triple-expansion engines, developing a 3,000-horse power, and will be protected by side and turret armor varying from four to ten inches in thickness. The battery will be very heavy for the size of the ship, and will be composed of two twelve-inch eight-inch and four ten-inch breech-loading rifles, six six-pounder and one one-pounder rapid-fire guns.

It is not the intention of the Naval Militia to ask Congressional assistance for this ship. They will go to the Legislature, and with the assistance of prominent men in New York hope to secure an appropriation without difficulty.

Useful for Harbor Defence.

The vessel is intended for a practice ship, but it is so designed that it will be available for harbor defence in case of emergency. The idea in building the ship with these dimensions is that the expense of her maintenance and operation may be reduced to the minimum.

While acknowledging the desirability of such a vessel for drilling the reserves, the officials at the Navy Department are inclined to question the economy of constructing something which can be of little service in case of war, because the proposed ship, though carrying a heavy battery, is not proportionately protected by armor. It will be too small to engage any vessel of the battle ship class and too slow to be of service against cruisers.

Naval officers favor Government construction of a ship of actual value for war purposes, and which can be used in peace for drilling the naval reserves.

The Massachusetts militia also contemplates the construction of a vessel similar to that planned for New York.

Police Inspection Ends.

The inspection of the men of the Police Department ended with the second detachment of 2,300 men in the Seventh Regiment armory yesterday. Commissioners Smith and Andrews, the military members of the Board, Chief McCullough and about twenty spectators saw the review.

CRAMPS GO TO PACIFIC WATERS.

Will Spend Ten Millions on a Ship Building Plant at Seattle.

THEY SEEK A MONOPOLY.

New Establishment Would Enable Them to Build All of Uncle Sam's Vessels.

One of the sore trials of the Cramps, the shipbuilders, has been their inability to build all the ships for the United States Navy. Though they grabbed off every big contract let in the East, except where they would let them go elsewhere occasionally for appearances' sake, in the Navy Department and in Congress there was an understanding that where several vessels were to be built at the same time a part of them should be constructed on the Pacific coast. The only shipbuilding concern on the Pacific capable of doing this work was the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco, which secured all these contracts. Now the Cramps propose to reach out for this business, and to do it will erect an enormous plant on the shores of Puget Sound, at Seattle. It will cost \$10,000,000.

Man Who Knows Talks.

Among the persons who stood on the dock and witnessed the sailing of the Klondikers on the City of Columbia on Thursday afternoon were George L. Hammond, of No. 128 Front street, and his brother-in-law, Frank Chadsey, of Chadsey & Young, of Seattle. There were also present two representatives of the newly organized State Steamship Company, which purchased several of the American Line steamers for the Yukon trade. Mr. Chadsey stated with great positiveness that the establishment of the State Steamship Line by the Cramps is but the preliminary step in the scheme to secure a monopoly of the expenditure of ten millions and the upbuilding at Seattle of a shipbuilding plant by the Cramps which will be second only to that of the shipyard of the present Eastern yards.

Coincidental with the locating at Seattle of the terminals of the new line, the State Steamship Line should come about, probably of another great line to Honolulu.

The significance of this steamship movement toward the Pacific coast, of which the establishment of the State Steamship Line is the initial step, is but slightly appreciated in New York, where it is regarded as simply an adjunct of the present Klondike rush, said Mr. Chadsey, as the City of Columbia receded from sight.

"I have been East for some days now, and am in active negotiation with Mr. Joseph H. Hilday, vice-president of the State Steamship Line, regarding the purchase of certain valuable tide lands which our firm holds, and which the State has been endeavoring to acquire for the dock and shipyard of the new line. These tide lands, which are thirteen and a half acres in length, are practically all in the hands of the State, and are situated on the shore of the water may look at them and make this guarantee to the steamship officials will indicate the size of the ships which they expect to build, and the time before long, the acquisition of these tide lands by the State Steamship Company, while a necessary step, is but a preliminary step. The next move is the purchase by the Cramp interest of the ship-building plant of the Moran Brothers, at Seattle, which is already very extensive. The Cramps intend to build a shipyard on the building of the largest battle ships will immediately follow, and the San Francisco yards will then have a competitor of the most formidable sort."

Know What They Are About.

"I can state positively that in entering upon this undertaking the Cramps have not done so without thoroughly looking over the field and assuring themselves of its entire practicability."

"For instance, in the item of coal alone, it can be laid down in the bunkers at Seattle for 30 cents a ton. The advantage this gives either to a steamship line or a great steam consuming plant is at once apparent. As for the harbor, there is no doubt that it has the advantages being so universally acknowledged."

"In a naval way the port is already of great importance as the headquarters of the Pacific naval fleet, and owing to certain improvements in the way of a ship canal and an inland harbor now contemplated by the United States Government, it is likely to become much greater."

"In addition to this, the increasing importance of Japan as a naval power, coupled with the fact that the United States has the almost certain annexation of Hawaii will entail, has not been lost upon the Cramps."

"The undertaking is already far more advanced than is generally known, and is practically certain to be carried through."

Mr. Chadsey is confidentially connected with the firm of Joseph Edwards & Co., of No. 414 Water street, for one of the largest "sand-sucker" hydraulic dredges ever built, and he is employed by the city and county, and it is figured, will be able to work with such rapidity that at least one of the great docks proposed will be ready for occupancy by the middle of next summer."



FREE TO MEN

Thousands of men will welcome the news that a most successful remedy has been found which will quickly cure them of any form of nervous debility, impotency, lost manhood, night losses, lack of vigor, relieve them of all the doubt and uncertainty which such men are peculiarly liable to, and restores the organs to natural strength and vigor of youth. The genuine prescription of this wonderful remedy is sent free to all who write. As it costs nothing to try the experiment, it would seem that any man, suffering from any form of nervous debility, ought to be deeply interested in such a remedy, without which they continue to live an existence of untold misery. As the remedy in question was the result of many years' research as to what combination of medicine would be most effective in restoring to men the strength they need, it would seem that all men suffering with any form of nervous weakness ought to write at once. A request to H. C. Olds, Box 1004, Kalamazoo, Mich., stating that you are not writing out of idle enthusiasm, but wish to make use of the prescription by giving it a trial, will be answered promptly and without evidence as to where information came from. The prescription is sent free, and although some may wonder how Mr. Olds can afford to give away his discovery, there is no doubt about the matter being genuine.

In response to Mr. Olds' kindness in sending this wonderful prescription his daily mail reflects a condition of thankfulness that is deep and sincere. To be returned to natural vigor after years of weakness must strike right into the very essence of man's best hopes. Here are a few specimens of these letters: Mr. H. C. Olds—"The results could not have been better. I noticed a warm feeling as of returning life, an exquisite experience of renewed power, and I cannot withhold an expression of gratitude to you for having thus led me to the way of restoration. Everything looks brighter; life offers more than I ever supposed it would, and nothing can be of more service to a weakened man than your precious prescription." Dear Sir—"Permit me to thank you and also congratulate myself upon the results from the prescription you sent me free recently. The effect was quite noticeable even in the start, and in a surprising short time there was considerable enlargement with all the necessary strength and vigor. It is truly a man's remedy and gives him just what he needs most." Mr. Olds—"I am grateful to you for the prescription, which I tried as directed. Being a great sufferer for many years, I did not expect a cure right away, but there is a marvelous something in your prescription that does the work like a race horse. I feel like a different man already." And so on, letter after letter voicing the sentiment of unusual and exuberant thankfulness. It is certainly a remarkable prescription that induces men to write such letters of themselves. It is worth while writing to Mr. Olds for such a matchless remedy as given in his free prescription.

\$130 in U. S. Gold given away. See Journal "Want" pages.

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FLEGENHEIMER BROS.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!

Again we present our patrons and customers with handsome souvenirs for the holidays. Every one and everybody can by reason of the very low prices and high qualities of our UNEXCELLED WINES, BRANDIES, WHISKIES, CORDIALS, FRUITS and HONEYS be able to secure one or more of these valuable and appropriate offerings.

By a purchase of \$2.00 of our excellent goods, either six Cut Glasses or a handsome Fruit Dish will be given.

By an investment of \$3.00 this handsome La-Verne set of six glasses, in all colors and designs, or six Enamelled Glasses and Tray to match will be given.

A purchase of \$5.00 entitles you to a handsome extra large in all shapes and colors (Gold and Silver) Basket, or a Crystal Glass Pitcher with six Glasses to match.

SWEET WINES.

ANGELICA	1890	\$1.25	\$1.50
SWEET CATAWBA	1891	1.00	1.25
PORT	1890	1.25	1.50
SHERRY	1889	1.25	1.50
MUSCAT	1888	1.50	2.00
MALAGA	1887	1.50	2.00
FLAMING TOKAY	1886	2.00	2.50
TOKAY CABINET	1885	2.25	3.00

WHITE WINES.

TABLE WINE	1891	\$0.80
ROCHER	1890	1.25
CHAMPAGNE	1889	1.25
GUT EDEL	1888	1.75
JOHANNESBERG	1887	2.00
FLEGENHEIMER'S AUSLESE	1886	2.50
Non Plus Ultra	1885	